The Senrohs (?)

SILVER DIAMOND 16

~ The Last Night ~

◆◆◆

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ICHIRACI TOSUISHA SPECIAL COMICS

シルバー ダイヤモンド

SILVER DIAMOND

The Last Night 16

SUGIURA SHIHO

杉浦志保

ICHIRACI TOSUISHA SPECIAL COMICS

SILVER DIAMOND シルバーダイヤモンド

16

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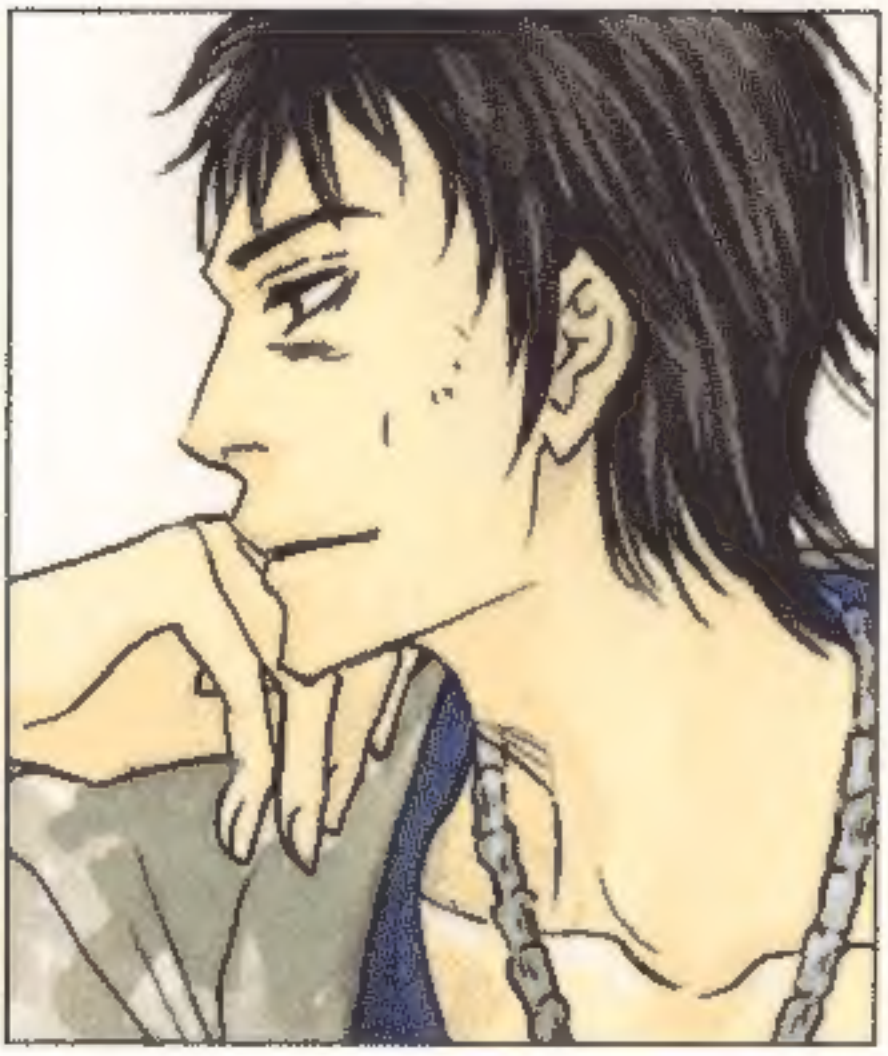
SILVER DIAMOND 16

ICHIRACI Comics

[ABOUT THE VOLUME]

A CHARISMATIC ALTERNATE UNIVERSE FANTASY. CELEBRATE WITH THE SERPENT☆SAE JOINS UP!! WHILE RAKAN AND THE OTHERS SEIZES THE CHANCE TO HAVE THE SERPENTS AS THEIR ALLIES, THE CAPITAL IS NOW IN A STATE OF EMERGENCY BECAUSE THE ETERNAL LIFE SEED HAS GROWN?! VOLUME 16 IS FULL OF DRAMATIC TURNS, WHICH INCLUDES 4 MUST-SEE EXTRA STORIES ("SPEAKING OF WHICH", ETC.)!!



● IT'S FUN COMING UP WITH CUTE NAMES FOR GIRLS, BUT I ALSO LIKE COMING UP WITH NOT CUTE (IN A GOOD WAY) NAMES FOR MIDDLE-AGED MEN (LIKE WATO). INCIDENTALLY, THERE'S NOT MUCH CHANCE TO INTRODUCE NAMES FOR THE ENEMY CHARACTERS WHEN THEY APPEAR IN THE MANGA, SO THERE'S ONE POOR GUY WHO STILL DOESN'T HAVE A NAME. I NEED TO COME UP WITH ONE SOON...

THE LONG-TIME POPULAR COLORED FRONTISPIECE ILLUSTRATIONS MADE SPECIALLY FOR NEWLY PUBLISHED COMICS CAME TO AN END ON SEPTEMBER 2008 DUE TO THE RISING COST OF PAPER. THE COMICS PUBLICATIONS STARTING OCTOBER 2008 NO LONGER COLORED FRONTISPIECE ILLUSTRATIONS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING.

MAIL ORDER POINT COUPONS ARE INCLUDED FOR ALL PUBLISHED COMICS (FOR BOTH FIRST AND SECOND EDITIONS) EVER SINCE OCTOBER 2001. THE COUPONS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE LOWER RIGHT SIDE OF THE BACK COVER OF THE COMICS.

SILVER DIAMOND 16

シルバー ダイヤモンド

SUGI URA SHI HO

杉浦志保

CONTENTS

SILVER DIAMOND

The Tide.....7

The Last Night.....55

Too late.....103

Extras

Speaking of Which.....54

Favorable 2.....151

Various Reasons.....152

Taking This Opportunity.....153

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SILVER DIAMOND
シルバーダイヤモンド

ALTERNATE WORLD CAPITAL

MOST INFLUENTIAL PERSON IN THE ALTERNATE WORLD. HAS THE POWER TO PREDICT THE AYAME PRINCE.

THE ONLY MEMBER LEFT OF THE SENROH FAMILY, WHO ARE CALLED MONSTERS. NEEDS THE POWER OF THE SANOME.

will sacrifice anything to kill

treasures

feels that he has the same fate with

siblings who have the same face?

using each other

THE PRINCE'S SOLE AIDE.

enemies

A KIND-HEARTED HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT. HAS THE POWER OF THE SANOME, THE ABILITY TO GROW THE ALTERNATE WORLD'S PLANTS AT HIS WILL. HAS THE SAME FACE AS THE PRINCE IN THE CAPITAL.

THE SOLE MALE IN SHIGEKA, THE FAMILY THAT PRODUCES SANOMES. THE SNAKE KOH IS HIS COMPANION.

like siblings (brother and sister?!)

valued comrades

valued comrades

Cooperating with

COMES FROM THE TOHNO FAMILY, KNOWN FOR THEIR UNIQUE LIGHT FLOWERS. A NUMBER CHILD.

real siblings

mother & daughter

HAS A NUMBER NAME.

Shigeka Family

HEAD OF THE SHIGEKA FAMILY.

THE LEADER.

HAS A NUMBER NAME.

comrades

ALTERNATE WORLD FRONTIER

EX-FRONTIER GUARDS
SANOME PRINCE'S GUARDS

※SANOME - SOMEONE WHO CAN GROW PLANTS AT WILL.
AYAME - SOMEONE WHO ABSORBS AND WITHERS PLANT'S NUTRIENTS.

♦ ONE DAY, A PERSON FROM AN ALTERNATE WORLD NAME CHIGUSA FELL INTO RAKAN'S GARDEN. HE CALLED RAKAN A "SANOME", SOMEONE WHO CAN GROW PLANTS AT WILL, AND TOLD HIM THAT HE NEEDED HIM. FURTHERMORE, NARUSHIGE, KOH, AND KINREI'S ASSASSIN, TOHJI, TOO ALL FELL INTO HIS GARDEN, AND RAKAN OPENS UP TO THEM. HE FELT DEEPLY CONNECTED TO THE ALTERNATE WORLD, SO HE DECIDED TO GO THERE. ♦ RAKAN DECIDED TO GO ON A JOURNEY TO RETURN THE GREENERY IN THE ALTERNATE WORLD WITH KAZUHI AND THE OTHERS, WHO HE MET IN THAT WORLD. ♦ THE AYAME PRINCE WAKES UP, AND THE SANOME APPEARS IN THE CAPITAL. RAKAN, AS THE SANOME PRINCE, RESOLVES TO GIVE GREENERY AND HOPE TO THE PEOPLE. ♦ IN THE MIDDLE OF THEIR JOURNEY, RAKAN AND THE OTHERS LEARNS ABOUT THE MEANING OF "ETERNAL LIFE". ♦ AFTER LEARNING THAT HE HAS AYAME BLOOD FROM THE "WORDS" OF THE PRINCE AND KINREI'S ILLUSION, CHIGUSA ASKS NARUSHIGE AND THE OTHERS TO KILL HIM WHEN HE ACTS STRANGE. RAKAN GETS REALLY MAD AT THAT, AND TELLS HIM THAT IT IS CHIGUSA HIMSELF WHO HAS BEEN PROTECTING THE ALTERNATE UNIVERSE FROM THE AYAMES. ♦ CHIGUSA AND THE OTHERS CONTINUE THEIR JOURNEY SAVING PEOPLE AND TOWNS, EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE TREATED AS THE BAD GUYS. MEANWHILE, IN THE CAPITAL, KINREI AND THE OTHERS HAVE FINALLY STARTED GROWING THE SEED OF ETERNAL LIFE...?!

FOR MORE DETAILS, PLEASE READ VOLUMES 1-15!!

STORY&CASTS

SILVER DIAMOND
シルバーダイヤモンド

The Tide

CLICK

GO AHEAD, PRINCE.

IT'S ALREADY LATE,

SO PLEASE REST.

.....

IN A BAD MOOD...

SINCE EARLIER, YOU SEEM TO BE...

....PRINCE?

IS SOMETHING THE MATTER?

EH?

ARE THOSE PEOPLE ALSO "COMRADES"?

...KINREI.

IF YOU TREAT ME JUST LIKE THE REST OF THEM!

I WON'T FORGIVE YOU...

WHAT?!

YOU'RE UNEXPECT-EDLY...

SAYING SOMETHING CUTE.

THOSE ARE "ALLIES", PRINCE.

.....

AH,

AND BECAUSE OF THAT, THIS WHOLE TIME, YOU'VE BEEN.....

chuckles

TOOLS FOR OUR USE.

"COMRADES"... ARE "USEFUL TOOLS".

PRINCE.

ANYONE ELSE LIKE YOU,

..... FOR ME,

THERE ISN'T...

NO...

.....

AM I... LYING?

!

NOW THEN, GO IN.

CREAK...

Twice?!

Okay, okay.

TREASURE ME!

...FINE THEN, IF THAT'S THE CASE!

OKAY!

RUS

TLE

SHE'S NOT SUPPOSED TO HAVE MUCH INTELLIGENCE THOUGH...

AWH... IS SHE RETURNING THE GREEN-ERY ON IT?

AWSH

AWSH

IS IT THE SANOME'S INSTINCTS?

.....

WHAT IS THIS FEELING

I WONDER ?

...RAKAN.

Good morning!

YOU WERE ON LOOKOUT DUTY, RIGHT?

YEAH.

Yo

GOOD MORNING, RAKAN-KUN!

Morning

rustle

GOOD MORNING!

...ARE YOU AWAKE NOW?

stretch

I DREAMED ABOUT MY SCHOOL, HOW NOSTALGIC...

ALL RIGHT! SHALL WE GO?

Ah.

GOOD MORNING, CHIGUSA!

AH, OH YEAH, THE LOOKOUT...

I SHOULD USE THE SWORD PROPERLY.

A FARAWAY WORLD.

I'M ALREADY IN...

HUH, WHAT? WHERE?

DASH

TICK

KURO, STOP!

IT'S THAT TOWN UP AHEAD. I'M GOING DOWN FOR A BIT.

'K.

Okay, onee-sama! ♡

Need help?

No, it's okay

WHAT IS IT?

SENROH, WHAT'S THE MATTER?

An Ayame ?

BUT "THEY CAME OUT FROM THE UNDER-GROUND"...

THEY'RE HUGE ONES AGAIN.

HE SAID THAT THERE ARE AYAME IN THE TOWN UP AHEAD.

Stop!

Okay!

AO, SCATTER THESE, I'M COUNTING ON YOU!

WILL WE MAKE IT IN TIME?

Waa!

THEY'RE HUGE!

IT'S TRUE! THEY CAME OUT!

The Ayame!

clench

RAKAN-KUN, HERE, THE "BONE" NUT!

AH, THANKS!

SWISH

WOOSH!

EH?!

...EH?

RUMBLE

...HUH?!

RUMBLE RUMBLE

RUMBLE

RUMBLE

BA

N9

What was that just now?

It was shot down?

Didn't some huge ayames appear just now?

Eh. From where?

It popped out?!

HOWEVER, THE TOWNSPEOPLE ARE TERRIBLY SHOCKED...

a bit panicking-

WELL, THAT'S A GIVEN.

CHIGUSA, DID YOU MAKE IT ON TIME?

-turns

YEAH.

THANK GOD!

THEY SAW THE BODIES DISAPPEAR INTO BALLS OF *STRING*, AFTER ALL....

OF COURSE YOU'D GET SCARED IF YOU DIDN'T KNOW

AH.

AOTSUBAKI HAS SCATTERED THE NUTS.

IT PROBABLY LOOKED LIKE A PSYCHIC PHENOMENON...

SORRY...

THEY'RE KIND OF PANICKING AGAIN...

WOOOOOSH

Hun, why- did it come out of nowhere?!

Ah. is that a bone tree?!

Waa. something suddenly appeared

.....BUT THEY DEFINITELY WON'T REALIZE

THAT THEY WERE SAVED BY "SENROH CHIGUSA"...

WELL, IT CAN'T BE HELPED.

HMM?

NO, WE'RE TREATED AS THE BAD GUYS SO THAT WON'T MAKE SENSE.

Well, in any case, I'm glad we made it on time.

I SEE...

BUT THEY WILL REALIZE

THAT "RAKAN, THE SANOME" DID IT BY LOOKING AT THE BONE TREE RIGHT?

THEN, THEY MIGHT THINK, "SENROH SHOT IT FOR US WITH A RIFLE"...

FLICKER

THAT'S..

SHINING SAND...

WHOOSH...

EH?

AGAIN?

.....

HOSHIMI-NOKOTO APPEARED...

Mm, these are good rocks.

SCRATCH MUNCH

CRUNCH

Okay, break time-

HMM?

THAT'S RIGHT,

I have a task for you.

CAN YOU CALL KARAKU-SAN FOR ME?

Okay!

YOU REALLY ARE A FANATIC, AREN'T YA.

Why are you reading a book like that?

A JOURNAL OF OPINIONS ON GOOD BUILDINGS.

OH, I GOT IT FROM SENROH.

HE SAID HE MADE SOME KIND OF MISTAKE AND TOOK IT WITH HIM.

HE MADE A MISTAKE ?

HE SAID THAT IT WASN'T A BOOK ABOUT THE "SENROHS".

YOU REALLY LOVE BOOKS, DON'T YOU.

WHAT'S THAT BOOK ABOUT?

The one you're reading.

A word, otaku!

OH, THIS ONE?

WAA, IT'S SO HARD TO READ!

"WHAT"? .....A BOOK.

OH, I SEE! I AM...

HUH? WHAT IS?

WHOA!

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?

...CHIGUSA MAKING MISTAKES?

IT'S RARE, ISN'T IT...

SEEMS DIFFICULT, HAVING THAT THIRD EYE...

SO YOU'RE SEEING TOO MUCH, HUH.

I SEE TWO LAYERS OF LETTERS...

THE BLACKENED "SENTENCES UNDER-NEATH"!

ALSO SEEING THE "LETTERS UNDER-NEATH".

HUH?

.....

THAT'S BECAUSE THAT GUY UNCON-SCIOUSLY ADJUSTS H S EYES!

I'M NOT YET USED TO IT!

CHIGUSA WAS READING IT NORMALLY, YOU KNOW.

WHERE THE GRASS WITHERED BECAUSE OF THE "ILLUSION" THE OTHER DAY.

THERE ARE OTHER PLACES

EH?

...SHE SAID.

YES, JUST IN TIME...

I WAS JUST THINKING OF CONTACTING YOU AS WELL.

YES.

SHE DID SAY THAT THE GRASS WITHERED AT THEIR PLACE...

OTHER PLACES ?

"HIRAHARA"... DO YOU KNOW THEM?

"TOGIYA",

"KIRISHI",

THE TOWNS, OR RATHER, THE SURNAMES ARE.....

.....

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? I WONDER IF THERE'S ANY RELATION...

YEAH.

HUH? THEY'RE ALL TOWNS WE'VE VISITED...

THAT'S RIGHT.

IF THEIR LINE OF SIGHT CONNECTS THROUGH THE ILLUSION...

...AH,

THEN, COULD IT BE...

YEP.

I think it's possible.

EVEN FROM TOWNSPEOPLE FROM FARAWAY?

..THEN HE CAN ABSORB NUTRIENTS...

HAKUBI,

YEAH.

HE CAN ONLY DO IT ON "PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE IN HIM" THOUGH.

YOU SAID THAT THE PRINCE CONNECTS WITH OTHER PEOPLE'S EYES,

AND ABSORB NUTRIENTS FROM THEM RIGHT?

AND ALSO...

ABOUT "HOSHIMINOKOTO"...

Whoa..

AND AS A *SUBSTITUTE* FOR THAT,

HE PROBABLY ABSORBED THE NUTRIENTS OF THE SURROUNDING GRASS.

Hence, they withered.

IF HE CAN ONLY ABSORB NUTRIENTS FROM HUMANS WHO HAVE FAITH IN HIM,

THEN THAT MEANS...

THE PRINCE COULDN'T ABSORB FROM THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE DOUBTS ABOUT HIM SINCE THEY MET WITH RAKAN-KUN.

EVERYWHERE.

OF AN OLD MAN NAMED "HOSHIMINO-KOTO" ARE INCREASING...

BUT IT SEEMS THAT TOWNS WHO HAVE SEEN THE ILLU-SION...

OUR TOWN HAS NOT SEEN HIM.

IT APPEARED IN THE TOWN EARLIER AS WELL.

THE ILLUSION.

EVERY-WHERE ...?

"MY NAME IS..."

"HOSHIMINOKOTO".

"KINREI IS THE ONE WHO SEVERS THE THREAD OF GOD."

"THE PRINCE IN THE CAPITAL IS AN AYAME PUPPET."

HE IS THE SANOME...

THAT WILL ENVELOP THE SILVER, AND SAVE THIS WORLD

THE NAME OF THE TRUE PRINCE IS "RAKAN".

.....

...SHE SAID.

THE TIDE IS ONCE AGAIN TURNING IN YOUR FAVOR, PRINCE.

HE HAS THE SAME SKIN AND HAIR COLOR AS THE KINGEN FAMILY.

SO THERE SEEMS TO BE A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO ARE STARTING TO BELIEVE *HIM*.

I WONDER WHY?

Now that I think about it...

YEAH.

AS EXPECTED,

...HE REALLY IS ON OUR SIDE, HUH...?

CRUNCH

CRUNCH

CHOMP

CHOMP CHOMP CHOMP

MUNCH

MUNCH MUNCH

MUNCH

CRUNCH

SCRATCH
MUNCH
SCRATCH
MUNCH
MUNCH
CRUNCH
.....
.....
THEY ALSO HAVE GREEN FUR THAT I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE...
WHAT KIND OF ANIMALS ARE THEY, SERIOUSLY?
SEEMS LIKE IT'S THEIR STAPLE FOOD...
THE ROCKS.
BEEN EATING ROCKS THE WHOLE TIME ....
THEY REALLY HAVE....
WHAT EXACTLY IS THAT GUY...
"THE PRINCE IN THE CAPI--TAL IS AN AYAME"?!
!
THE GRASS BELOW THE ILLUSION WITHERED

HE IS THE SANOME

THAT WILL ENVELOP THE SILVER, AND SAVE THIS WORLD...

THE NAME OF THE TRUE PRINCE IS "RAKAN"

WHO OBEYS THE THREAD OF GOD.

HE IS THE ONE...

SILVER?

SENGIN?

HERE...

TO PROTECT THE CHILD OF GOD

.....

THE CRACKS!

THE GROUND IS SHAKING

STAND BACK! YOU MIGHT FALL INTO THE CRACKS!

CRACK

THERE'S SOMETHING DOWN THERE!

?!

BOOM!

EH?!

CRUMBLE

CLATTER

CLATTER

CLATTER

RUB

WAA!

MONSTERS ....?!

AND THEY CAN RUN FOR US WHILE WE RIDE ON THEIR BACKS.

With that body.

IT SEEMS TO LIKE HUMANS THOUGH...

DO YOU BELIEVE IN SENROH CHIGUSA?!

NO, THAT'S NOT IT...

...COULD IT BE, THAT THE PRINCE REALLY IS AN AYAME...

"KINGEN KINREI" IS THE ONE WHO SEVERS THE THREAD OF GOD."

EVEN SO, JUST WHO WAS THE ELDERLY MAN EARLIER...

A GHOST? AN ILLUSION?

WHY DOES HE HAVE THE SAME SKIN AND HAIR AS KINGEN-SAMA?

YES SIR...!

IN ANY CASE, LET'S HURRY ONTO THE CAPITAL.

DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN WHILE USING THESE BEASTS!

ARE THE GUARDS THAT SERVE UNDER KINGEN-SAMA.

...WE...

DON'T BELIEVE IN PEOPLE YOU DON'T KNOW SO EASILY.

...AS KINREI-SAMA AND THE PRINCE HAVE SAID,

!!!

Wato-sama!

!

THERE'S A POSSIBILITY THAT THAT ILLUSION IS ALSO AN ACT BY SENROH, THE AYAME.

I SEE...

LET'S GO!

YES SIR!

WITH MY OWN TWO EYES!!

I'M GOING TO CONFIRM WHO PEOPLE ARE...!

FLICKER

WHO EXACTLY...

THAT GUY WAS...

!

WHO KINREI IS.

...WHO THE PRINCE IS...

WHETHER OR NOT SENROH IS A MONS-TER...

....WHETHER OR NOT THAT SANOME BOY IS THE "TRUE PRINCE"...

IN THE FIRST PLACE, IS HE A GHOST?

He is a great person though.

... WHO EXACTLY IS THAT PERSON, I WONDER....

When he staggered the other day

BUT IF HE IS AN ILLUSION, THEN HE COULDN'T HAVE WOKEN CHIGUSA UP.

THAT'S TRUE...

HMM,

THIS IS IT!

WAIT A MINUTE...

..NO,

IT CAN'T BE, CAN IT...?

.. THE ONE THAT APPEARED FROM THE SHINING SAND.....

"SHINING SAND"...

COULD THAT POSSIBLY BE...?!

HUH?

HIS NAME... I FOUND THE CHARACTERS FOR HOSHIMI-NOKOTO'S NAME.

EH? SERIOUSLY?

Yeah.

Rakan, lend me a pen.

LIKE THIS...

AHH, SOMETHING IN THE HEAVENS, HUH.

THAT DOES SOUND REMARKABLE.

STAR?

THE LIGHTS THAT SHINE ABOVE THE CLOUDS AT NIGHT.

Never seen it though.

AS EXPECTED, THE CHARACTER FOR "STAR"* IS THERE, HUH.

Exactly like Miya said.

Show me, show me!

WHAT UNUSUAL CHARACTERS.

IT REALLY DOES LOOK LIKE A GREAT PERSON'S NAME.

*T.N. He's talking about the Japanese character for star (星 = "ho").

THIS IS READ AS HOSHIMINOKOTO?

"M"KOTO?

LOOKING FOR IT HARDER, THERE'S ALSO INFORMATION ABOUT... HOSHIMINOMIKOTO...

It has an extra "mi".

...I'VE NEVER SEEN IT IN SCROLLS EITHER...

Right?

NO, NEVER.

I haven't read that much books though.

HAVE YOU SEEN SOMETHING LIKE IT IN BOOKS?

MIKOTO*...

SOUNDS KIND OF LIKE A GOD'S NAME..

GOD HAS A NAME?

GOD'S NAME?

LIKE ONE THAT APPEARS IN JAPANESE LEGENDS...

*T.N.. "Mikoto" is a suffix attached to names of gods/nobles. So Hoshuminomikoto could be translated as "Lord Hoshumi"

"THE AWAKENING OF THE GOD THAT SHINES IN THE SAND .."

"WE WILL BE ABLE TO WELCOME IT SOON."

"HAPPINESS ISN'T THAT FAR-OFF."

.....

GOD'S NAME...

HEEH. THERE'S SOMETHING LIKE THAT, HUH.

"GOD IN HUMAN FORM"?

THERE ARE NAMES FOR THE GOD IN HUMAN FORM.

Various names

AH!

IT'S A STORY FROM THE WORLD I CAME FROM.

WHOOSH

LIKE THAT, RIGHT?

....THERE WAS A PROPHECY...

THAT GUY...

.....HE WAS IN THE ROOM WITH THE SHINING SAND, RIGHT?

HE APPEARED...

FROM THE "SHINING SAND", DIDN'T HE?

SHINING SAND...

SHINING SAND...

...SHINING IN THE SAND...

"THE AWAKENING OF THE GOD "

"THAT SHINES IN THE SAND ."

"GOD" .....?

THEY ARE THE FAMILY THAT'S "THE CLOSEST TO GOD"...

IF THAT'S SO, IT WOULD EXPLAIN KIN-GEN'S HAIR AND SKIN...

Seems possible.

SINCE THEY'RE THE "THREAD OF GOD".

GOD? SERIOUSLY?

HEY, DIDN'T WE TALK ABOUT HOW THE DEATH GODS WERE...

BUT A GOD IN HUMAN FORM...

Is there one?

LIKE "GOD'S MESSENGERS" ....

for example.

AH, THAT'S RIGHT.

!

AH, NO NO NO, WAIT A MINUTE!

STOP!

I SEE...

THE PRINCE...

SAID THAT HE PLANNED THAT TO BE THE "SUN" RIGHT?

IN THE FIRST PLACE, THAT'S THE PRINCE'S PROPHECY.

I AM GRATEFUL THAT HE APPEARED FOR US, OF COURSE, BUT...

MEET "GOD" IN PERSON LIKE THAT?

WE REALLY...

I MEAN, CAN...

WHIPS AROUND

!

OH NO, SOME KIND OF...

HUGE MONSTER CAME OUT FROM UNDER-GROUND...

WHAT?!

CLING

TURN

SENROH!

AH!

CLATTER

FIRST ENCOUNTER.

AH, A SERPENT.

EH, THIS IS NORMAL?!

IT'S ALL RIGHT.

WHAT IS?!

...NO, OI!

WHOOSH

EH, A GIRL?!

WHY!

IT'S TRUE!

THERE'S SOMEONE RIDING IT! A GIRL...

THIS IS NORMAL FOR YOU GUYS TOO?!

OH, A SERPENT HUH?

I WONDER WHAT BUSINESS IT HAS.

A GIRL SNAKE TAMER?!

A SNAKE TAMER?!

SHE'S AN ENEMY THEN...

THAT'S JUST PLAIN FISHY RIGHT?!

WHOOSH

...NII-SAMA!!

EH? SAE?

YOU MEAN, SHE'S YOUR SISTER?!

NARU-SHIGE-SAN'S?!

...SAE?!

!

EH?!

SCREECH

NII-SAMA!

...YOU REALLY ARE SAFE...!

EH?

NARU-SHIGE'S YOUNGER SISTER?!

Still surprised

He has one?!

.....

...SAE.....

.....

.....

.....

AHH, IF SHE'S YOUR SISTER,

SHE PROBABLY CAN RIDE A SERPENT .....

CONVINCED.

NARU-SHIGE-SAN, YOU HAVE A YOUNGER SISTER?

YES,

BUT...

I'VE NEVER TALKED TO HER BEFORE.

I'VE NEVER ENTERED THE SHIGEKA MANSION...

NARUSHIGE -SAN'S NERVOUS

HOW RARE...

UMM.. YOU SEE,

...WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?

MITAMA-SAMA...

what awkward siblings.

LET ME BE BROUGHT ALONG...

BY UNOHANA-SAMA HERE TO WHERE NIISAMA IS...

WHOA, HE'S SO FORMAL!!

SAE.

NIISAMA!

...GOOD AFTERNOON.

AH! SHE'S BEING FORMAL TOO?!

Will these 2 be okay?

BOWS

AH, YES,

GOOD AFTER-NOON.

YES, HE WAS...

...MITAMA-SAMA DID?

OHH~

HE PROMISED ME...

VERY KIND TO ME AS WELL...

THAT HE'LL BECOME FRIENDS WITH MOTHER.

UMM, YOU SEE,

?

Nii-SAMA ...?

WAH, SHE'S DONE FOR! "MOTHER" IS A TABOO WORD!!

HEY.

...UMM...

SORRY, NARUSHIGE IS...

SO HE CAN'T SPEAK PROPERLY.

...I MEAN, HE'S NOT GOOD WITH GIRLS,

NOT INTERESTED IN GIRL-

← His way of amending

THERE ARE OTHER BETTER WAYS OF DOING IT!!

WELL, HE DID COVER UP FOR HIM, BUT...

....IS HIS COVERUP ACCEPTABLE?!

THE SERPENT JOINED THE WEIRD CONVERSATION!!

EH?

YOU MEAN YOU'RE BETTER WITH GUYS?

What are you talking about in front of his sister

AH, YES I AM!

YOU ARE "RAKAN", RIGHT? THE SANOME...

HIS FIRST WORDS.

...EXCUSE ME...

NICE TO MEET YOU, LINOHANA-SAMA.

MY NAME IS LINOHANA.

FOR NOT INTRODUCING MYSELF.

WELL, WHAT A POLITE CHILD.

I'VE HEARD OF YOU FROM MITAMA.

"PRINCE".

NOT AT ALL...

THANKS TO YOU,

WE ARE NOT AFRAID OF TURNING INTO STONE ANYMORE...

THANK YOU...

FOR SOOTHING "TSUKISHIRO".

AND "AOBI" AS WELL.

YOU HAVE OUR GRATITUDE.

ALL THE SERPENTS HAVE.

.. WE SERPENTS...

HAVE DECIDED TO PROTECT YOU.

WE...

ARE ABLE TO BELIEVE THAT YOU PEOPLE CAN SAVE THIS WORLD.

EVEN THOUGH YOU LOOK JUST LIKE AN ORDI-NARY BOY,

ISN'T IT STRANGE?

EH?

UNTIL WE TURN INTO STONE.

PLEASE USE ALL THE SERPENTS...

FROM THE AYAME PRINCE AND KINREI.

WE ALSO WANT TO PROTECT THIS WORLD...

SANOME PRINCE.

WE...

WILL FIGHT WITH YOU,

....OKAY!

EH?

THERE ARE OTHER SERPENTS BESIDES THAT ONE?

THANK YOU VERY MUCH...!

A "CHILD OF GOD"...

IS PROBABLY SOMEONE LIKE THIS...

HEEH, THAT'S AMAZING, RAKAN!

EVERYONE IS ON THE PRINCE'S SIDE...

AND HOSHIMI-NOKOTO IS ON OUR SIDE AS WELL...

AND THE SERPENTS TOO!

AND THE LEAVES AND FLOWERS...

ARE ON OUR SIDE AS WELL!

JUST LIKE RAKAN SAID,

WHETHER THERE IS A GOD OR NOT,

WE DON'T KNOW....

OR WHAT KIND OF PERSON HE IS, BUT...

MITAMA ASKED SAE...

TO MAKE ME WHITE AGAIN.

EH? THEN...

UNOHANA-SAMA IS "KOKUYOU", THAT SERVANT OF KINREI'S?

Huge

wa—

YES.

LIMM, USING THIS...

BY PUTTING A "PART" OF MITAMA-SAMA IN HIS BODY.

She's really a snake tamer?

EH, HOW?!

HE SAID THAT...

IT'S HIS... CELL THOUGH...

CELL?

EH? "I KNEW IT"?

AH, NOTHING ...

THIS IS A "PART" OF MITAMA-SAMA?

YES.

AH!

HOW BEAUTI-FUL.

I KNEW IT, IT'S A PEARL!

I know right!

I SAW YOU WHEN YOU WERE CRUCIFIED...

IN MY HEAD...

...BUT YOU GIVE OFF A TOTALLY DIFFERENT IMPRESSION NOW.

IMPRES-SION?

...YOU'RE SENROH CHIGUSA RIGHT?

EH?

...I WONDER IF IT IS.. ABOUT CELLS?

I'll put it away

SO THIS WORLD IS ALSO KNOW-LEDGEABLE ABOUT THAT SORT OF THING...

How unexpected..

YOU'RE A MUCH BETTER GUY NOW THAN BEFORE.

YOU LOOK...

A LOT MORE FRIENDLIER NOW.

COMPARED TO ALL OF THE SENROH...

I'VE SEEN UP UNTIL NOW.....

HE LOOKS LIKE AN ORDINARY HUMAN.

AH, HOW RARE.

CHIGUSA'S BLUSHING...

smile

tighten

...THANKS.

I'M KOH.

I'M NARUSHIGE'S CHILDHOOD FRIEND,

AND BEST FRIEND AS WELL! NICE TO MEET YOU!

sae!

The other guys are too!

HEEEH~

ME TOO, ME TOO! NICE TO MEET YOU!

SAE'S A NUMBERED CHILD TOO HUH.

.....

YES, THAT'S HOW IT USUALLY IS FOR THE SHIGEKA.

EH, YOUR FA-THERS ARE DIFFERENT?

YES!

SAME HERE!

.....

THANK GOOD-NESS...

NIISAMA ISN'T ALONE AS WELL...

TOHJI'S STYLE OF BACKING UP.

SAE, WHO IS MISUNDER-STANDING THINGS

IN THE TENSION AND CHAOS.

NIISAMA...

REALLY..

DOES SEEM LIKE HE'S BETTER WITH GUYS.....

EH, WORRY ABOUT WHAT?

DON'T MIND, OKAY!!

So Niisama, don't worry about it!

BUT NIISAMA, I...

...DAMN CHIGUSA .....

Well, he backed up for me, but

AH, THANKS TO KOH AND TOHJI BEING HERE,

BOTH OF US AREN'T NERVOUS ANYMORE...

Rakan isolated Chigusa away from them.

HE'S MISUNDERSTANDING AS WELL.

Is Lure that ?

Natsushige

Including that guy in the back.

IT'S FUNNY, SO LET'S LEAVE THEM ALONE.

WELL, WITH HIS LOOKS, RIGHT...

YEAH, SHE IS, BY THE LOOKS OF IT.

SHE'S MISUNDER-STANDING H.M, ISN'T SHE...

IS THAT THE BIRD THAT WENT TO THE CAPITAL?

FATHER!

YES.

Yes, see.

...EH?

"...I CAN'T CONTACT HIIRAGI"?

EH?

Yes

He's unconscious.

"IT'S LIKE IT'S SLEEPING"?

HIIRAGI IS?

KARAKU,

WE HAVE TO LET THE PRINCE AND THE OTHERS KNOW!

SENROH CHIGUSA...

OKAY!

WILL PROBABLY BE ABLE TO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE CAPITAL...

...THE BIRD THAT DOESN'T NEED TO SLEEP?

KINREI.

YES?

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT HOSHIMI-NOKOTO?

WHAT'S THAT?

IT'S A NAME,

WITH THESE CHARAC-TERS.

『星示御言』?

HO SHI MI NO KO TO

.....

.....

WHO IS THIS PERSON?

BUT THERE'S NO NAME LIKE THIS IN THE BOOKS IN THE CAPITAL...

THERE ARE SIMILAR SENTENCES LIKE IT,

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT IT?

IT IS THE NAME OF A PERSON... OR SOMETHING.

NO.

HAVE YOU EVER SEEN IT IN BOOKS BEFORE?

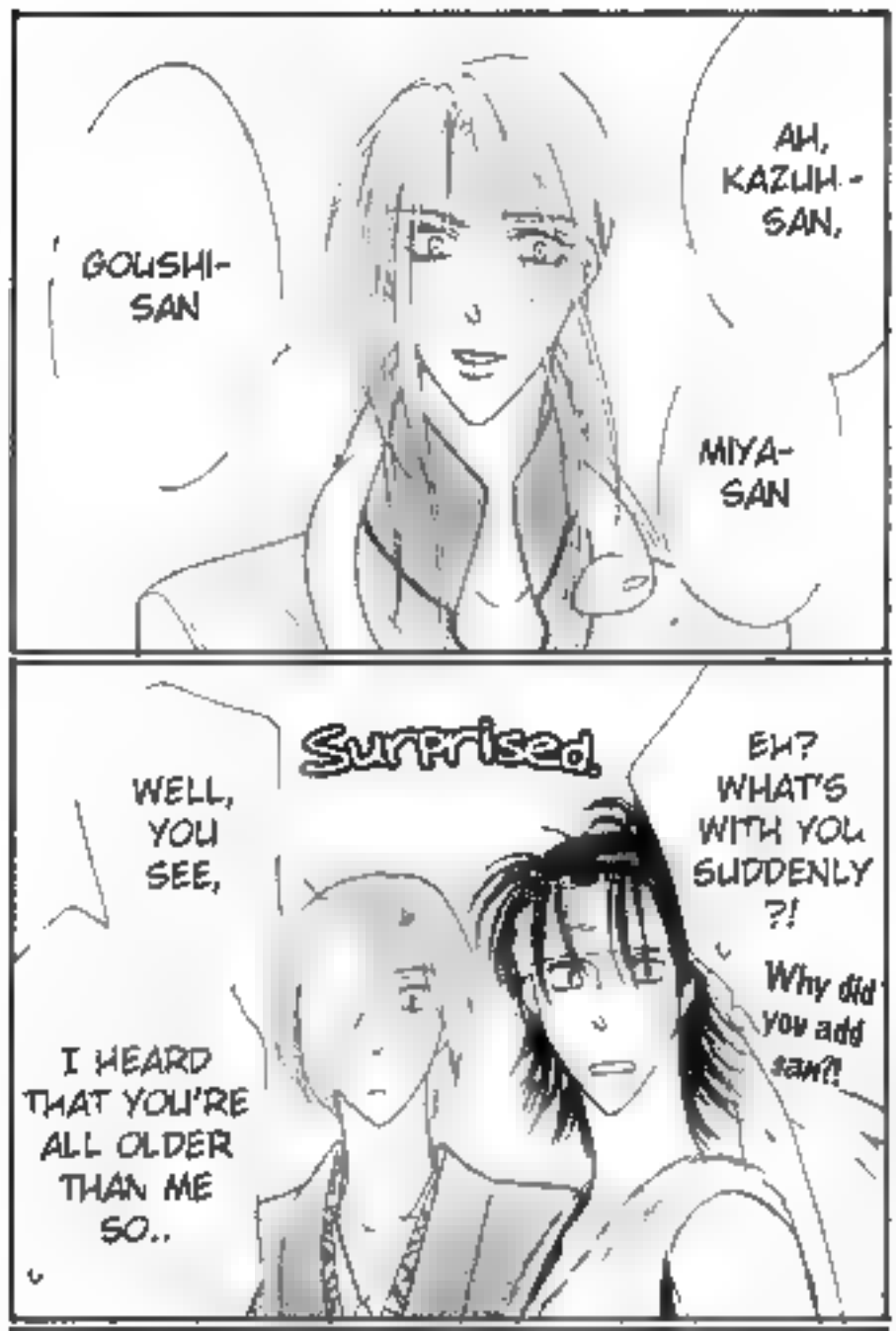
SEEMS QUITE TROUBLESOME...

DO A SEARCH ON HIM!

HE'S AN ENEMY.

CLACK

SPEAKING OF WHICH


GOUSHI-SAN
AH, KAZUH-SAN,
MIYA-SAN
Surprised.
WELL, YOU SEE,
I HEARD THAT YOU'RE ALL OLDER THAN ME SO..
EH? WHAT'S WITH YOU SUDDENLY ?!
Why did you add san?!
WOW, YOU'RE REALLY POLITE.
BUT I NEED TO SHOW RESPECT TO THOSE OLDER THAN ME
THAT'S 'CAUSE NARUSHIGE'S EARNEST~
IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER IF YOU DON'T ADD -SAN.
AH!
HEY, ISN'T CHIGUSA
OLDER THAN YOU...

...RUN AWAY!

HURRY!

The Last Night

EH?

THAT KINREI WILL USE TO DESTROY THIS CAPITAL....

SHHH

THE THING...

IS GROWING

THE TREE THAT DEVOURS LIVES.

CHATTER

WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT JUST NOW?

...WHAT?

A GHOST?

HE SAID KINREI-SAMA WILL DESTROY THIS PLACE...

...!

HE DISAPPEARED ?!

AND THE SANOME YOUNGER BROTHER IS THE TRUE PRINCE!

HE SAID THAT THE PRINCE IS AN AYAME!

Snap!

SAY THOSE KINDS OF THINGS?

WHY DID SOMEONE WITH THAT SKIN AND HAIR COLOR...

HE LOOKS LIKE AN ANCESTOR OF KINREI-SAMA'S...

WHO'S "HOSHIMI-NOKOTO"? WHAT IS HE?

THE SOUNDS OUTSIDE...

?!

Crack

Snap

Dash!

!

FROM THE CEMETERY?

Snap

Snap

IS THAT .....?

WHAT...

Crack

IT'S MOVING!

!

?!

DIZZY

Crack

Snap

IT'S COMING CLOSER!!

!

A MONSTER!!

.....NO, IT'S GROWING?

EARLIER, HE SAID THAT SOMETHING THAT DEVOURS LIVES IS GROWING...

....IT'S GETTING BIGGER!!

EH?

RUN...

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT!!

THUD

DIZZ...

...?!

YOSHI-ZANE?!

Zzz

……

Now then.

RAKAN-KUN, YOU REST AS WELL.

AH, OKAY.

...OH,

SHE DID REALLY WELL TO GET HERE ALL BY HERSELF...

YEAH...

GOOD THING WE MET HER.

ZZZ

IF A GUY SLEEPS NEXT TO HER..

THE ONLY GIRL.

I WONDER IF SAE-CHAN WON'T LIKE IT,

IF I SLEEP THIS CLOSE TO HER

ARE YOU USED TO IT?

EH?

...IN OTHER WORDS, YOU'RE UNEXPECTEDLY...

FINE WITH SLEEPING NEXT TO A GIRL, HUH.

IS THAT SO?

THEN, I GUESS IT'S FINE...

I THINK IT'LL BE FINE IF IT'S YOU, RAKAN-KUN.

If you sleep next to her

Since you're a gentleman...

OH, I SEE...

YOU'RE SO INDIFFERENT~

AH, SORRY.

I'M COMPLETELY FINE WITH IT.....

I don't worry about it.

GIRL FRIEND*? WHO?

I'D PROBABLY MIND IF SHE'S MY GIRLFRIEND* THOUGH.

WON'T YOU BE NERVOUS...

IF YOU SLEEP NEXT TO A GIRL?

USED TO WHAT?

T N The term originally used is "Kanojo" which can mean girlfriend or the general pronoun "she/her" Rakan meant the former but Mia probably understood it as the latter

WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THIS FACE!

Girls can't possibly ignore it!

OF COURSE HE DOES, RIGHT?

EH! RAKAN,

YOU HAD A LOVER IN THE OTHER WORLD?!

NO, "GIRLFRIEND"...

MEANS "LOVER" IN RAKAN'S WORLD.

AH, SORRY..... sort of...

NEVER HAD ONE AT ALL.

IT'S KIND OF SCARY WHEN CHIGUSA'S THE ONE SAYING IT...

IT'S KIND OF SCARY..

WHEN CHIGUSA'S THE ONE SAYING IT...

*T.N Chigusa meant that Rakan was called out for confessions a lot

WELL, HE WAS CALLED OUT BY GIRLS...

A LOT...

THAT'S UNEXPECTED.

YOU DIDN'T HAVE A LOVER?

WOW, YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'D BE POPULAR.

Yeah.

WEEEEEELL, THAT'S ...

Umm

I'M NOT REALLY GOOD AT THAT KIND OF THING...

WHY DID WE END UP TALKING ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THIS...

YOU'RE GOOD WITH GUYS THEN...

DON'T SAY IT LIKE THAT!

You have to be more indirect about it

Indirect?

NO NO NO NO NO!

NARUSHIGE-SAN

TURNED COMPLETELY INTO A BULLIED CHARACTER.

PLEASE DON'T INCLUDE ME!

"THE SAME KIND" THEN?

with these guys.

It's so direct

THAT'S RIGHT.

I...

HOW CAREFREE ...

SO THAT'S HOW IT IS.

Yeah.. sorry—

I GUESS IT'S LIKE I NEVER FELT LIKE GOING OUT WITH A GIRL...

NO, WELL, THAT'S ooooooo

WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE I'M NOT INTER-ESTED BUT...

YEAH.

I'VE NEVER...

REALLY...

...RAKAN?

'BEEN ABLE TO CHOOSE SOMEONE LIKE THAT....

I LIKE GIRLS THOUGH.

...I CHOSE...

AND DECIDED TO COME HERE.

YEAH.

I know

Smile

HE...

CAN SAY JOKES NOW.

...SORRY.

IT WAS A JOKE.

I'm really sorry.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

"I CHOSE"

Now, go to sleep already.

Rakan-kun

Okay

——AND CASTED EVERYTHING ELSE ASIDE.

.....CAN YOU READ IT?

...KAZUHI,

CAN YOU READ...

THE BLOTTED OUT SENTENCES..

UNDER-NEATH?

YEAH, SOMEHOW...

I CAN'T READ IT AT ONCE THOUGH.

NO, IT'S OKAY.

SORRY ABOUT THIS...

YOU TIRED?

I'M CURIOUS AS WELL.

HE PROBABLY REGULATED HIS EYES SO THAT HE CAN'T REALLY SEE THE SENTENCES UNDERNEATH ANYMORE.

CHIGUSA USUALLY READS BLACK BOOKS NORMALLY.

CHIGUSA NEVER MAKES MISTAKES.

THERE'S PROBABLY SOME INFORMATION ..

ABOUT SENROH IN THE SENTENCES UNDERNEATH .

I'LL READ IT AS FAST AS I CAN

I GOT IT.

WAH, IT'S TRUE! IT'S SO HARD TO LOOK AT!

UUMM, WHAT...? BEHIND THE BROOK OF AMAKI FOREST IN IZUMA TOWN...

WHOOSH

HMM? LIKE THIS...

So, do you see it?

....HOW DO YOU SEE IT ANYWAY?

The sentences underneath.

Pat

...NOPE, NOT AT ALL.

I COULD READ IT IMMEDIATELY.

OH, YOU'RE SO SMART!

As expected of my younger brother!

"DIFFICULT"?

IT WAS DIFFICULT, RIGHT?

REMEMBERING LETTERS...

TOHJI,

EH?

YOU CAN READ IT SO SMOOTHLY!

EVEN THOUGH YOU COULDN'T SEE WITH YOUR EYES BEFORE.

HMM?

I WONDER IF LETTERS CAN'T BE READ AS SOON AS YOU SEE THEM...

HMM?

WHAT? WHAT DOES IT SAY?

TRY READING THIS PART.

...EH?

THIS IS...

Zz

Zz...

...NARU-SHIGE?

...

YOU'RE...

HAVING TROUBLE WITH HER, AREN'T YOU?

AH.

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO SLEEP WITH THEM?

NO, I WILL...

RIGHT NOW.

SHOULD I CALL TOHJI?

EH?

DID TOHJI NOTICE AS WELL?

.....

.....I SEE, THAT'S WHY...

CLINGS.

PROBABLY.

.....

RUSTLE

...IT'S NOT THAT...

I HATE SAE.

YEAH.

.. I'M JUST NO GOOD AT ALL...

WITH ANYONE...

WHO HAS THE SAME BLOOD AS SHIGEYUKI -SAMA.

YOU SEE,

IF I DO WHAT MITAMA-SAMA ASKED ME TO,

... ... AND WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "BECOMING FRIENDS WITH" SHIGEYUKI-SAMA...?

HE PROMISED

HE'LL BECOME FRIENDS WITH MOTHER IN EXCHANGE

SHE'S A GOOD KID. ...

SAE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG.

"YES."

" DID YOU MEET"

"MITAMA-SAMA?"

"IN NII-SAMA'S ROOM.. "

Pat

MOTHER WILL RE-ALLY...

END UP BEING ALONE.

NIISAMA.

MOTHER...

DOESN'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS IN THE SHIGEKA MANSION.

THAT'S TRUE...

IF I'M NOT BESIDE HER ANYMORE AS WELL.

NO,

NIISAMA.

I'M SO GLAD..

THAT YOU GREW INTO SUCH A GOOD KID..

. YOU ARE

SUCH A GOOD KID

EH?

A LITTLE...

STRANGE.

...I...

I'M PROBA-BLY

STILL LIKE...

MOTHER

I DON'T UNDER-STAND WHY, BUT I

. BUT.

I KNOW.

..I KNOW ..

THAT MOTHER...

DOESN'T LIKE ME.

EVEN JUST A LITTLE

REALLY DID LOVE ME,

..I BELIEVE...

THAT SHE .

I AM...

PROBA -BLY .

A LITTLE STRANGE .....

THAT SAE AND I BECAME SO TWISTED.

IT'S SHIGEYUKI-SAMA'S FAULT...

...I...

THAT I'M SUCH A HEARTLESS MAN.

DON'T WANT HIM TO KNOW...

I'M DIFFERENT FROM HIM.

"DIFFERENT" ?

NO, OF COURSE HE WON'T HATE YOU, RIGHT?

I DON'T WANT HIM TO HATE ME..

...DON'T...

TELL RAKAN-KUN, OKAY?

ABOUT OUR CONVERSATION JUST NOW

..WITH THE WAY THINGS ARE,

I'M DIFFERENT FROM SAE TOO.

..I'M DIFFERENT.

HE..

REALLY TREASURES HIS MOTHER A WHOLE LOT, RIGHT?

NARUSHIGE

....THAT'S THE KIND OF PERSON I AM.

I DEFINITELY CAN'T FORGIVE HER FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.

IF SHE DIES FOR SOME REASON,

I WON'T BE SAD AT ALL.

...EVEN IF I CUT OFF ALL TIES WITH MY MOTHER,

THE HATEFUL FEELINGS WON'T DISAPPEAR...

POPS

UP

THERE'S...

HATES

HIS OWN BLOOD, HUH....

NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT. THEN,

YOU SHOULD JUST LIKE US TO THAT EXTENT INSTEAD.

Yeah.

RUSTLE

HOW COME?

BUT I DIDN'T WANT YOU TO KNOW EITHER....

YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY,

I WON'T TELL RAKAN!

WAH, TOHJI!

WHAT?!

SINCE YOU WERE RAISED AS A GOOD KID.

YOU DON'T WANT HIM TO KNOW, RIGHT?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN "WAH"...

LET HIM KNOW ABOUT THAT BOOK FIRST...

ANYWAY, I SHOULD PROBABLY

.....

WHY ARE YOU TREATING ME LIKE A CHILD!

IT'S NOT LIKE I'M GOING TO AVOID YOU!

What the hell are you saying!

AOTSUBAKI.

flop

COME ON, LET'S GO TO SLEEP!

...ANYWAY, ISN'T IT OUR TURN TO SLEEP?

Ah.

YES.

Pull

GOOD NIGHT.

Good night!

Please translate.

NN~~~?

KOH, WAKE UP!

EH?

HE'S SAYING SOMETHING...

HMM?

SHE SAID SHE CAN'T CONTACT "HIIRAGI",

AND THE OTHERS THAT FLEW TO THE CAPITAL.

SORRY FOR WAKING YOU.

IT'S OKAY.

WHAT DID SHE SAY?

STEP

...KARAKU-SAN AND THE OTHERS ARE CONTACTING US?

Gotcha

OKAY!

HE CAN SEE IT ?!

HE'S GOING TO TAKE A LOOK AT THE CAPI-TAL?

CLINK...

I WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE...

THE THINGS AROUND ME FOR A LITTLE WHILE,

SO COVER FOR ME...

I'LL TAKE A LOOK.

THEY SEEM TO BE IN A WEIRD STATE,

THAT'S WHY THEY WANT SENROH TO TAKE A LOOK.

THE CAPITAL?

CAN YOU SEE IT?

.....

ZOOM

WHOOO

OSH

.....WHAT

IS THAT?

STONES?

...TREES?

THE WHOLE CAPITAL...

....IS SURROUNDED BY STONE TREES.....!

EH?!

YES.

IF THAT'S THE CASE, IT'S NOT BAD TO USE IT.

HOW INTERESTING

LIKE THAT ANY TIME.

...THEN, PLEASE CALL FOR ME...

KINREI.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

FEEL FREE TO USE THE KINGEN MANSION AS YOU PLEASE UNTIL THAT TIME.

THE OPPORTUNITY WILL RISE SOON.

PRINCE,

ARE YOU SURE?

I'LL BE OKAY ALREADY IN A MOMENT.

...DISMISS THE SANOME.

LET'S GO, SANOME-SAMA.

SHIGEYUKI-DONO,

DISMISS THE SANOME FOR THE MOMENT.

OKAY.

...SHE MAY STAY IN THE KINGEN MANSION AS WELL.

IT'S FINE ALREADY. DISMISS HER.

WHAT ABOUT THE REPLENISHMENT OF YOUR POWER?

YES.

PISSED OFF...

...LOOKING AT HER...

MAKES ME KIND OF...

WHOOSH...

.....

I HEARD THAT SANOMES PRACTICALLY DON'T HAVE ANY INTELLIGENCE...

DOES THE SANOME... UNDERSTAND WORDS?

SHIGEYUKI-DONO... ONE MORE THING.

YES?

I DO NOT RECOMMEND IT THOUGH...

HOW-EVER, IF YOU TEACH THEM PATIENTLY,

THEY WILL BE ABLE TO REMEMBER WORDS AND SPEAK.

WHY?

BUT MOSTLY PLANT SO...

...SANOMES ARE NOT HUMAN,

THEY DON'T HAVE HUMAN-LIKE EMOTIONS.

THEIR MINDS CAN'T UNDERSTAND WORDS.

THEY ARE LIKE PUPPETS THAT REACT AND MOVE BASED ON THE EMOTIONS OF THE WORDS.

IT'LL BE TROUBLESOME WHEN EMOTIONS SPROUT.

shut

OKAY.

...WELL, I JUST HEARD ABOUT IT.

I SEE.

..EXCUSE ME.

THE SANOME IS JUST FINE AS A DOLL.

THAT'S TRUE.

THERE ARE PEOPLE COLLAPSED..

EVERYONE BUT "KINREI'S COMRADES"....

IN EVERY MANSION

Cl
ck

I'M GLAD I VISITED...

WHILE KINJOU-SAMA IS STILL CONSCIOUS...

AS THINGS ARE, HE'LL PROBABLY DIE SOON.

IT'S FINALLY..

IT'S FINE,

LOOKS LIKE THE END

AS LONG AS THIS CAPITAL IS SAVED.

...WHOA!

YEAH.

YOU SEE IT?

WHAT IS THAT...

....

THE WHOLE CAPITAL HUH?

IT'S COVERED BY SOME STONE OR TREE.

THEY'RE SLEEPING?! ...EVERYONE? THE PEOPLE IN THE CAPITAL?

THERE ARE STILL A NUMBER OF LIVING, MOVING HUMANS,

BUT MOST OF THEM ARE SLEEPING.

I CAN'T LOOK THAT CLOSELY THOUGH...

The prince might sense me looking.

THE OTHER HUMANS...

WERE PUT TO SLEEP BY THAT STONE TREE...

CLACK

...THAT'S HOW THE FLOW OF THE POWER'S RAYS FEEL.

OR MORE LIKE THEIR NUTRIENTS ARE LITTLE BY LITTLE BEING ABSORBED WHILE THEY'RE SLEEPING.

THEY PROBABLY MADE EVERYONE...

EXCEPT KINREI'S COMRADES SLEEP...

THAT'S TRUE,

SINCE THE MOVING, HUMANS ARE CONCENTRATED IN THE VICINITY OF THE PRINCE'S BEDROOM.

"THEY WILL OBTAIN THE SEED "

"THE SEED OF ETERNAL LIFE..."

"IS ONE THAT GROWS "

"BY DEVOURING PEOPLE'S LIVES. ....."

YOU MEAN IT'S LIKE THEY ARE BEING SUFFOCATED?

...I THINK THAT'S HOW IT WILL BE EVENTUALLY.

THEIR LIVES ARE CONTINU-OUSLY BEING ABSORBED.

...THE TREE OF THE ETERNAL LIFE SEED!

THAT IS DEFINITELY...

..IT'S JUST LIKE HOSHIMI-NOKOTO SAID...

"DIES".....

SHUDDERS

...EVERY-ONE DIES.

When that happens.

SINCE IT'S LIKE A CANNIBAL PLANT.

HOW BIG DID IT GROW?

AND WHAT HAPPENS TO THE PEOPLE...

THE CRACKS IN THE GROUND WERE SO SEVERE,

THAT THE CAPITAL WAS THE ONLY ONE ISOLATED.

IS THE ONLY ONE COVERED WITH THE TREE...

NO, THE CAPITAL...

EVEN THE SURROUNDING TOWNS?

IT SUCKED NUTRIENTS OFF,

WHEN THE TREE OF THE "SEED OF ETERNAL LIFE" FINISHES GROWING?

IF WE AREN'T CAREFUL, WE MIGHT FALL INTO THE CRACKS.

...BUT WE CAN'T TRAVEL AT NIGHT!

Damn it!

YEAH.

BY HOW MUCH...?

UMMM, LET'S SHORTEN OUR BREAKS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE THEN....

BEFORE THOSE PEOPLE BECOME VICTIMS!

TO THE CAPITAL!

...WE HAVE TO HURRY...

A LOT OF PEOPLE...

WILL END UP DYING!!

RAKAN!

IF WE DON'T GO SOON...

HOW MUCH TIME WILL IT TAKE TO GET TO THE CAPITAL?

WE HAVE TO HURRY!

RAKAN-KUN, REST YOUR BODY A LITTLE.

WE CAN'T COME UP WITH A WAY AT ONCE.

for now.

.....

thump

CHIGUSA.

CALM DOWN FIRST!

RUSTLE

WHAT?

YOU WANT TO TRAVEL AT NIGHT?

LET'S GO AS SOON AS IT GETS BRIGHTER...

THAT'S THE MOST RELIABLE WAY.

IN THE MORNING.

.....

OKAY.

.....

er

CAN MOVE NORMALLY AT NIGHT.

I...

EH...?

ush

flutter

flutter

flutter

flutter

EH? IS THAT SO?!

WOOOOOW!

...AH! I SEE, UNOHANA-SAMA!

OH DEAR, THAT'S TRUE.

AH! BUT

I'VE NEVER FALLEN INTO CRACKS EITHER.

WE ALL CAN'T RIDE ON YOU, HUH?

I CAN ADVANCE BY FLYING IN THE SKY.

THE ONES AT THE BACK WILL GET DROPPED.

...NO, IT'LL BE FINE.

SERIOUSLY?

I'LL CALL THEM IN MY HEAD,

yay!

YES!

SO WE CAN GET EVERYONE TO RIDE ON THOSE SER-PENTS.

WE CAN GO FASTER THIS WAY!

THERE SHOULD STILL BE OTHER SERPENTS NEARBY.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH KURO AND THE OTHERS?

Good thing, huh

Yeah!

THAT'S TRUE. CAN YOU FOLLOW THE SERPENTS,

Yes, maam!

WHEN IT GETS BRIGHTER?

Kuro!

WAIT FOR A MOMENT, I'LL TRY CALLING THEM.

YES!

THANK YOU, UNOHANA-SAMA!

You're a great help!

IT'S FINE, PRINCE... I DID TELL YOU TO USE US, DIDN'T I?

WE'RE GLAD TO BE USEFUL.

AHH, YOU MEAN...

WHAT?

HOW HE'S PROBABLY LOOKING AT US THROUGH HIS "FARSIGHTEDNESS".

He has.

...IF SENROH CAN SEE UP UNTIL THE CAPITAL,

THEN COULDN'T THE PRINCE SEE UP UNTIL HERE AS WELL?

.....

...HEY, TOHJI.

Come here for a bit.

HMM?

What?

Pull

Pull

Yeah.

LOOKING FARAWAY USES QUITE A LOT OF POWER,

SO HE CAN'T KEEP LOOKING.

CHIGUSA SAID THAT HE WASN'T LOOKING THAT CLOSELY.

Right, Chigusa?

EH?

Wah, you were listening?

HEY, WHY ARE YOU SO INDIFFERENT?

YES, THEY DID...

LOOK, THOSE GUYS KNEW ABOUT THE STONE PUPPETS AND THE GROUP OF NUMBERED CHILDREN RIGHT?

IS WHAT I'M TELLING YOU GETTING THROUGH TO YOU?

What I just said.

AH, ...

I SEE...

sigh.

BUT I THINK IT'S OKAY AS LONG AS HE DOESN'T GET ANY DETAILED INFO.

OUR GENERAL WHEREABOUTS MAY BE REVEALED BY HIS FARSIGHT-EDNESS,

And any path we take will probably stand out

AND HE CAN'T HEAR VOICES OR SOUNDS EITHER....

EVEN IF HE LOOKS, HE CAN ONLY DO IT FOR 1-2 SECONDS.

?

EH?

A GIRL'S VOICE...

An enemy?!

AH...

!

...I found you!

Senroh! Rakan!

tha-

THAT'S NOT...

AH, COULD IT BE THAT YOU WERE WORRIED ABOUT US?

Hakuh!

RINRAI.

It's been a while. I followed you!

RINRAI-SAN!

WHOOSH

VERY TRANSPARENT.

Good evening. Nice to meet you.

SHE'S A GHOST, CALM DOWN.

SHE'S A BEALITY, A BEALITY!

THE GIRLS HAVE INCREASED!

whisper whisper

I MET HER ALONG THE WAY.

YOU SEE, SHE'S CALLED SUZUMORI RINRA!-SAN.

AH.

EH OOO!

It's okay! She's a good ghost!!

A GHOST?!

And it's friendly?!

Rakan,

your comrades have increased.

YEP!

step

YO, RINRAI!

Been doing well?

It's true.

And the greeneries have as well. It was beautiful.

"SENROH'S BONES"?

WHAT'S THAT?

No, I haven't.

DID YOU FIND SENROH'S BONES?

WHAT? HIS SIBLING?

SAME FACE?

The bones of the guy from the Senroh family I saw in the past.

The one with the same face as Chigusa-san.

WELL..

nods

THE SENROH FAMILY...

ALL HAVE THE SAME FACE.

EH?

SHE SAID HE LOOKS SERIOUSLY LIKE...

NO, A PERSON FROM 200 YEARS AGO.

HIS ANCESTOR.

THEN, IT'S YOUR GREAT GRAND-FATHER'S GREAT GRANDFATHER?

...am I right?

.. ISN'T THAT THE INHERENT CHARACTERISTIC OF THEIR FAMILY?

ALL HAD THE SAME FACE.

THE SENROH GUYS I SAW IN THE PAST...

FROM WHAT I REMEMBER,

A FAMILY...

WHERE THEY ALL HAVE THE SAME FACE...?

A NATURAL ANIMAL——

ISN'T THAT JUST LIKE

THR OB

YUKINOHA...

I FOUND...

!

DAMN!

RUN AWAY, EVERYONE!!

I WAS TRICKED!!

!

THERE'S ANOTHER SERPENT!

CRA

SH

DON'T KILL HIM!!

HE'S MY COMRADE!!

flip

IT'S BLACK...

!

!

PULL

PUT A PART OF MITAMA'S BODY IN HIM...

EH?!

UNOHANA-SAMA!

I SEE, THAT ONE!

SAE HAS IT!

RAKAN, GET BEHIND ME!

OKAY!

DASH

I'LL GO WAKE SAE UP!

fwish

fwish

fwish

GLOW

GLOW

GLOW

FLASH

WHAT THE?

THE SCALES ARE BECOMING TRANSPA-RENT...

THEY'RE BREAKING...

CRACK

SNAP

!

THE SCALES ARE TURNING INTO STONES...!!

CREAK

CRACK

?!

WHY AM I SUDDENLY TURNING INTO STONE?

CRACK

SNAP

CAN'T POSSIBLY DIE...

JUST BECAUSE OF AN INJURY LIKE THIS!

MY BODY...

MITAMA

MY TURN TO DIE YET.....

I THOUGHT...

IT WASN'T...

.....I'M SORRY.

IT SEEMS THIS IS WHERE WE'LL PART,

PRINCE.

!

SWOP

BACK TO THE WAY HE WAS.....

RETURN THIS "YUKINOHA"...

PLEASE.

UNOHANA-SAMA!!

SHWP

THE SERPENT IS RUNNING AWAY!

I'M GOING AFTER IT!

TOHJI, ATTACH THE PEARL TO YOUR ARROW!

OK!

NARUSHIGE, STAY BY RAKAN'S SIDE...

SOMETHING'S FALLING....

?!

WHAT THE?

PETALS?

?!

THUD

WHA...

MY BODY IS...

dizzy

dizzy

!

EVERYONE ...?!

THE LAST NIGHT.

EVERYONE WAS ALL TOGETHER.

THAT WAS THE LAST NIGHT...

The Last Night

couldn't leave the house for a while

Hello. Sugura here. Caught a cold for once and am now once again pressed for time. Easily catch colds during October. The medicine that just so happened to be in the refrigerator in my house really helped a lot. It'll be winter by the time this volume comes out. You all be careful not to catch a cold as well. Ah, oh yeah, this will be released on January!

Happy new year
Please support me this year as well

All right! I've greeted everyone early this year. Drafted a lot of 4 panel comics this time. It was so fun. It doesn't match the mood of the story though. They are stories that happened at around volume 15, chapter 3.

Ahhh, don't have anymore time
I'll end around here for now. Thank you for the letters.
Thanks to the people who send their feedback as well!
See ya at the next volume!

Sugura Hiramaya 2008 Seriously smells like Kinmokusei*

*T.N. Kinmokusei is also known as Osmanthus fragrans, or Sweet Olives. It's a small shrub's smell is sometimes prevalent at around October when the temperature is low.

SSS

SWOOSH

GRASP THE WORD OF BLOOD.

...YOUR NAME IS "KOKUYOU".

YOUR MASTER'S NAME IS KAGAN RITSUKA

Too Late.

FOLLOW ME.

ALL RIGHT, CONCEAL YOUR PRESENCE.

step..

YES, RITSUKA-SAMA.

KILL THE WHITE SERPENT

THAT'S NEARBY

GREENERIES ..!

THE SANOME BOY...

...

AND ACCOMPLISH MY MISSION.

I NEED TO RETURN SOON,

IT'S TOO LATE...

.....

WHAT THE HELL?!

TOHJI!

WHY DID EVERYONE COLLAPSE?!

WHAT ABOUT NARUSHIGE ...?!

THEY SUDDENLY COLLAPSED!

EVERYONE ...?!

AN ENEMY?!

dizzy

EH?

NARUSHIGE! IT'S POISON!

spit

IT'S THESE PETALS!

DON'T INHALE THE AIR DIRECTLY!

WHAT ABOUT RAKAN-KUN AND THE OTHERS?!

THE POISON IS IN...

THE FLOWER'S FRAGRANCE...!

CHIGUSA AND TOHJI TOO!

THOSE GUYS SEEM OKAY.

THERE HE IS!

USING INVISIBLE VINES TO HIDE!

IN THAT ROCKY MOUNTAIN OVER THERE,

RAKAN, TOHJI, HIDE BEHIND THE TREES!

BA

NGI

SCATCH

!

A HUMAN BODY.....?

IT'S NOT

THAT BODY IS COMPOSED OF..

BANG

BANG

THUMP

BANG!

BANG

CRACK!

THROB

SH
H
H
H

ITS TARGET ISN'T ME OR RAKAN.

SHHH

THE ONE IT'S AIMING FOR... IS THE GUARDS!

RIP

CHIGUSA!!

..... I'M FINE!

TURNS

RAKAN!

GOT IT!

GROW A TREE TO HIDE EVERYONE!

Are you all right?

NARUSHIGE!

WAIT, KEEP AWAY FROM THE PETALS...

unsteady

RAKAN-KUN!

PLEASE!

I GOT IT!

SWISH

THE "FENCE" VINES...

They're poison?!

THE PETALS?!

THE PETALS ARE POISON!

TWO

OH!

POP

POP

PUSH THESE PETALS UP

GROW UNDERGROUND!

AWAY FROM EVERYONE!!

SWISH

SWISH

SWISH

SWISH

FLUTTER

!

T&K

I CAN'T SEE THEM ANYMORE...

COME BACK, KOKUYOU!

swish

WOOSH

!

Cu P

WAH!

Oh no!

ONE FELL DOWN!

IT IS A POISON THAT MAKES THE BODY HEAVY WITH DIZZINESS.

YEAH,

KAZUHI!

HE'S RIGHT UP AHEAD.

AN ENEMY? ONLY ONE?

staggers

YOU SAID THEY'RE POISONOUS FLOWERS?

You stay put!

YEAH, HE'S NOT MOVING RIGHT NOW.

*T.N Literally translated "fuyubuki" means "winter breath"

But these flowers are..

Fuyubuki* flowers, aren't they?

They don't have an antidote.

I CAN EXAMINE IT!

THE INGREDIENT THAT CANCELS OUT THE POISON RIGHT?

POISON... WHAT'S THE PLANT THAT COUNTERS THE POISON? IS IT EFFECTIVE?!

Stay there, Rakan!

I'LL GET SOME PETALS!

STEP

TURNING THEM INTO POISONOUS FLOWERS..

ON PURPOSE.

THAT'S HORRIBLE ...

POOR THINGS!

THEY DEGENERATED..?! INTO POISONOUS FLOWERS?

SO THEY WERE ARTIFICIALLY IMPROVED... OR RATHER,

YEAH.

THAT'S ...!

!

Show me!

INSIDE THE FLOWER...

EH?

AND STONE MIXED TOGETHER... THERE'S POISON IN THE HUMAN BLOOD.

THERE'S AYAME BLOOD, HUMAN BLOOD

EVERYONE'S UNCONSCIOUS ...!

AKIICHI! YUUGO!

.....

MIYA-SAN! GOUSHI-SAN ...

POISON...

IS THE POISON SPREADING FAST?

IT HASN'T SPREAD TO ALL PARTS OF THE BODY YET....

DON'T MOVE THEIR BODIES FOR NOW!

Don't move anyone!

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

IS THERE NO ANTIDOTE

THEN EVERYONE WILL..

DIE LIKE THIS...

--NO, I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING!!

I HAVE TO FIND SOMETHING THAT CAN COUNTERACT IT SOMEHOW----

I NEED TO SAVE THEM

fluff

EH?! HUH?! IT'S GROWING ON ITS OWN?!

twist

twist twist

OH NO! THIS IS.

A POISONOUS FLOWER...

.....
INVISIBLE THREADS?

WHAT ARE THOSE.

!

SORRY! I'M GOING TO PUT THIS OUTSIDE!

I kind of ended up making it grow!!

RAKAN? STAY BY MY...

RUNS

WAAH, WHY?!

I'M NOT MAKING IT GROW...

HUH, WAIT...

WHOOSH

POP

EH?

NOT THE POISONOUS FLOWER FROM EARLIER...

RAKAN, THAT'S...

!

WHO

HUH...?

!

OSH

THIS NEUTRALIZES THE POISON!

HM!

munch, munch, munch

Ahh

REALLY?!

CHOMP!

!

The flower's color.

...CHANGED!

EH?

WHAT ABOUT THE POISON? IT...

HAS BEEN PURIFIED....

Yes...

THE FLOWER ITSELF TRANS-FORMED?

THE FLOWER ...

IT'S LIKE...

IT ANSWERED RAKAN...

!

RAKAN!

SNAP

SNAP

SNAP

SNAP

WHOOSH

Pull

WAH!

SNAP

SNAP

SNAP

!

THE FENCE GOT RIPPED OFF...!

Tak!

TAKE OUT THE POISON IN EVERYONE!

PLEASE!

SCAP!

SCAP

SCAP

WOOF

JH

CHIGUSA, IT'S OKAY TO GROW MORE OF THESE FLOWERS, RIGHT?!

YEAH!

EH?

THE ANTIDOTE?

KEEP THIS IN YOUR MOUTH!

Here, the petal!

flutter

MN...

.....?

WHOOSH

YOU'VE REMOVED THE COVER, I SEE.

WHERE ARE THE STONE PUPPETS?

MM.

THE INVISIBLE VINES ARE RIGHT OVER THERE!

WOOSH

SNAP

!

SNAP

GOT IT!

I'M GOING THERE! I'LL LEAVE THIS PLACE TO YOU GUYS!

step

...HE'S KAGAN RITSUKA!

TOHJI!

PLANT THIS ANTIDOTE WITH YOUR ARROW!

GOTCHA!

SWISH

!

THE POISONOUS FLOWERS...

ARE AT HIS FEET...

COME HERE... KOKUYOU!

FUP

SWOOSH

ZOOM

SWISH

SWISH

SWISH

THWACK

THWACK

THWACK

KEEP THIS IN YOUR MOUTH!

They're petals.

EVERYBODY!

...NN...

...MMM?

SAE!

Chew on this for now.

?

DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M SAYING?

IS EVERYBODY ALL RIGHT?!

...RAKAN?

HUH?

WE COLLAPSED JUST NOW

Are we cured?

WHOOSH

WHOA!

AKIICHI, THE LIGHT!

OK!

THERE'S A CAVE OVER THERE, RIGHT?

OK!

Go there!

WHERE THERE AREN'T ANY FLOWERS OF LIGHT!

HIDE IN THE DARK!

THE PLANT'S POISON SHOULD HAVE TAKEN EFFECT...

WHOOSH

ON EVERYONE EXCEPT FOR THE AYAME AND THE SANOME....

NOW, WE ONLY HAVE TO DESTROY THE STONE PUPPETS, KOKUYOU!

.....

HE'S NOT HUMAN...?

THUD

!?

RISES

BITE

I WON'T LET YOU,

YUKINO-HA!

!

LINOHANA-SAMA?!

TSK.

JUMP

!

PULL

LET GO!

!

KOKUYOU!

THUD!

SLiiii

I'LL FINISH THE STONE PUPPET MYSELF...

STEP

CAN'T BE HELPED!

DON'T MOVE!!

SPLASH

SPLASH

SPLASH

DE

!

STEP

THERE HE IS! THAT GUY...

over there!

EH?

I KNEW IT, HE ISN'T HUMAN!

HE MOVES TOO FAST!

THUD

CR ACK

HIS BODY WON'T HOLD--

ANY FURTHER.

...DON'T MOVE

IF HE DOESN'T STOP SOON,

!

SLASH

SLASH

WOOOSH

tsk

BAM

WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU SAYING?

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

THEY HAD MORE AC-COMPLICES LEFT THAN I THOUGHT...!

DAMN IT!

...YOU TOO, STOP MOVING!

DON'T MOVE!!

DASH

CHIGUSA!

--ENOUGH ALREADY,

DON'T USE ANY MORE OF YOUR BODY'S STRENGTH!

FINISH OFF THE GUARDS IN THE NEXT MOMENT, AND THEN FLY BACK TO THE CAPITAL...

I'LL CUT THROUGH SENROH FIRST,

SENROH...

CAN HEAL HIMSELF EVEN IF I INJURE HIM....

YOU'LL DIE!

IF YOU PUSH YOUR BODY ANY MORE THAN THAT,

EH?

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO DIE, DON'T MOVE ANYMORE...!

BUT IT WON'T HOLD ON FOR LONG.

THEY'RE FORCIBLY MIXED TOGETHER.

YOUR BODY'S ABILITIES ARE STRENGTHENED,

I CAN SEE AYAME BLOOD,

MIXED TOGETHER IN YOUR BODY.

A STONE OF SOMETHING, AND PLANTS...

I KNOW.

YEAH,

SENROH CHIGUSA,

I'M SURPRISED.

...YOU'RE SO KIND.

TOUCH

I WANT YOU TO SEND MY CORPSE BACK TO THE CAPITAL

IF I DIE HERE...

CAN YOU DO ME A FAVOR?

THEN, WHILE YOU'RE AT IT,

.....

RUSH

UMM, WAIT A MINUTE...

"YORUAKI" ?

!

Rakan!

An "I acquaintance?!

ADDRESS IT TO "YORUBASHI YORUAKI".

TO THE CAPITAL.

THAT GUY CAN "FLY OUT"...

!

MY COMRADE, SHIRAKAWA HAKUBI IS HERE, RIGHT?

HOW DID HE FIND OUT...

ARE...

Calm down!

IF YOU'RE DOING THAT BECAUSE YOU'VE GIVEN UP,

IN ANY CASE, LET'S TALK FOR NOW! LET'S TALK!

THEN THAT'S NOT GOOD!

Rakan-kun, get back!

ARE YOU GIVING UP ON YOURSELF?

for some reason?

MISTER?

BUT, WELL....

GIVING IN TO DESPAIR OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

I'M NOT REALLY...

SENROH HAS...

...HEEH...

THIS IS THE LIVING THING CALLED THE SANOME HUH...

BECOME MUCH GENTLER.....

TO ME, THIS IS...

THE WAY TO LIVE FULLY.

KID,

I SEE, HOW RARE.

JUST WAIT A LITTLE...

USING SUPERHUMAN "POWERS" SO SOON LIKE THAT.

DON'T RESORT TO...

CAN'T YOU WAIT A LITTLE?

EH? UMM, BUT...

IS A WORLD LIKE THAT NO GOOD...

IS THAT NO GOOD?

THEN YOU CAN LIVE NORMALLY WITHOUT USING THOSE KINDS OF POWERS.

I WON'T SWITCH SIDES.

IT'S USELESS TO PERSUADE ME.

I'LL MAKE EVERYTHING UP TO THE CAPITAL GREEN!

IF I LEAVE IT BE, I'LL DIE BECAUSE OF IT.

I CAN'T WAIT FOR THAT...

YEAH.

I HAVE AN ILLNESS.

I CAN'T WAIT FOR THE GREEN WORLD YOU'RE MAKING,

THAT'S TOO LATE.

....MSTER.

EVEN WITH THIS ILLNESS I HAVE.

I CAN USE MY BODY FULLY,

WITH THIS METHOD,

AM I WRONG?

IS BECAUSE I HAVE A GREAT WILL TO LIVE?

IF THERE'S A WAY NOT TO DIE,

DON'T YOU THINK THAT THE REASON I'M THAT METHOD...

IF I DO WAIT, DO YOU THINK I'LL LIVE LONG WITH THIS ILLNESS?

IF I...

AM ABLE TO PROTECT MYSELF AND THOSE IMPORTANT TO ME,

THEN I DON'T CARE ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE.

THAT WOULD BE IDEAL.

THAT'S CORRECT,

SANOME CHILD.

SACRIFICE OTHER PEOPLE.....

NO,

.....AS LONG AS IT DOESN'T...

I'M THE KIND OF PERSON THAT DOESN'T CARE AT ALL,

IF I KILL YOUR COMRADES.

MY REASONING IS....

NOT WRONG AT ALL.

.. I'M COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM YOU.

....YOU'RE TOO SLOW.

CROCK

CROCK

CROCK

CROCK

IT'S ALREADY TOO LATE.....

THUD

...MISTER?!

CHIGUSA.. HOW IS HE?

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO CURE HIM NOW...

...IN THE FIRST PLACE,

CAN'T THIS HELP HIM?

The thing I picked up earlier

MIXING STONES AND PLANTS TO PEOPLE IS JUST ABSURD...!

....IF THIS KEEPS UP.....

.....
THE STONE AND PLANT PARTS...

IN HIS BODY ARE GETTING STRONGER

MISTER!

!

NN.....

!

ha

NO, I COLLAPSED, HUH....

FALL ASLEEP?

AHH... DID I.....

DON'T GET UP!

WAIT...

WHAT... THE?

Rest. rest!!

Unsteady

...I'M REALLY DONE FOR.

WELL, THAT'S UNDER-STANDABLE.

I REALLY CAN'T USE MY BODY ANYMORE...

ﾅﾝﾃｺﾄｶﾞ!

THAT'S IT!

WE COULD USE THAT SEED...

OKAY, I'LL GO GET IT!

RAKAN, YOUR BACKPACK!

WELL, THAT'S OKAY.

FAILURES LIKE THESE HAPPEN IN EXPERIMENTS

YORUAKI WILL DEFINITELY BE MORE CAREFUL

SO THAT HE WILL SUCCEED NEXT TIME

...

SENROH,

AS I'VE SAID BEFORE,

WHEN I DIE, SEND ME TO THE CAPITAL...

YORUAKI

OH, SO YOU WERE HERE...

SEE?

!

YORUAKI

...

I'M NOT...

ﾅｰﾙ...

...YORUAKI!

THE DRUG FIRST...

AREN'T YOU HAP... PY... THAT I TRIED DRINKING...

A LITTLE... MORE....

TAKE CARE...

IF YOU TRIED... IT FIRST,

OF YOUR OWN... BODY...

YOU WOULD HAVE BECOME LIKE THIS...

YOU SAID...

YOU LIKE ME, RIGHT?

YOU ARE SUCH A SAD.. CHILD...

EH?

YOU'RE STILL ...YOUNG...

DON'T UNDER-STAND....

UMM...

DON'T LIVE LIFE SO RECKLESSLY

WHAT... IT TRULY MEANS TO DIE.....

YOU STILL...

IS SOMETHING LIKE...THIS.

DYING...

FROM THE BOTTOM OF YOUR...HEART. ...

I HOPE...

THAT YOU COULD AT LEAST...

MOURN... FOR ME....

OI!

HEY!

RITSUKA-SA....

SHH

PLEASE MAKE IT ON TIME!!

SHHH...

SNOW!

IT PUTS PLANTS TO SLEEP...

SNOW FLOWERS ...

I SEE!

.....YES.

THE PLANTS IN HIS BODY REACTED.

CHIGUSA!

HE'S IN A DEEP SLEEP NOW,

...IS HE... SLEEPING .....?

SO HE WON'T GET ANY WORSE... BUT....

.....

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT YORUAKI DOING.....!

...ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

MIYA.

IT'S BETTER THAN DYING...

YEAH.

YOU MEAN IT'S LIKE HIS BODY CLOCK HAS STOPPED?

YOU CREATED A GOOD DRUG, YORUAKI.

WE CAN USE THIS.

IT'S LIKE I'VE NEVER GOTTEN SICK ..

MY BODY FEELS GREAT!

....HOW IS IT?

I FEEL REALLY POWER-FUL TOO.

IT'S LIKE HAVING SUPER-POWERS.

LIKE BEING ABLE TO DO MONSTROUS RUNNING AND JUMPING.

YES ...!

Thank you very much

FINISH OFF THE "GUARDS"?

OF THE SANOME?

ON THE SANOME, SENROH, TOHNO TOHJI AND THE BLACK DOG.....

HAKUBI TOO? DID HE SWITCH SIDES?

YES.

THE POISON WON'T TAKE EFFECT..

What's young master doing?

SO YOU CAN FINISH OFF EVERYONE ELSE EXCEPT FOR THEM.

THERE ARE AROUND 20 OF THEM.

ON TOP OF THAT, THERE IS HAKUBI AS WELL

IT WILL BE AN EASY JOB FOR YOU NOW, RITSUKA-DONO.

FROM GETTING RID OF THOSE PEOPLE,

UNTIL... I COME BACK...

WHAT IS IT?

YES?

THESE ARE POISON FLOWER SEEDS.

THIS IS KOKUYOU'S STONE.

THESE ARE RIFLE SEEDS...

--KINREI.

...CAN YOU PROMISE ME ONE THING?

DON'T USE YORUAKI'S DRUG .

ON ANYONE ELSE.

TO MAKE MORE IMPROVEMENTS ON THE DRUG

SO IT'S BEST TO WAIT FOR MY RESULTS

WE DON'T KNOW IF IT WILL GO WELL OR NOT,

...I'M STILL IN THE MIDDLE OF TESTING IT ON MYSELF, AREN'T I?

EH?

...I DO TREASURE THEM.

BECAUSE "COMRADES" ARE MY...

DON'T TREASURE YOUR COMRADES, EVEN IF THEY ARE BAD GUYS,

THEY'LL DO THE SAME TO YOU.

IF YOU...

...WELL, I WAS THINKING...

THAT YOU WOULD USE IT IMMEDIATELY..

ON SOMEONE ELSE, YOU SEE.

TO WHERE YORUAKI IS.

BECAUSE I HAVE TO RE-TURN ..

SWOOSH...

AND TO MAKE SURE YOU WON'T BETRAY US LIKE HAKUBI HAD.

I'M GOING TO USE THE DRUG AS I LIKE IF YOU DON'T COME BACK

I WON'T BETRAY YOU .

HAHA

I SWEAR THEN.

PRECIOUS "TOOLS"...

THE DRUG WILL BE JUST FOR YOU, RITSUKA-DONO.

UNTIL WE GET YOUR RESULTS

FOLLOW ME

Jss...

ALL RIGHT, HIDE YOUR PRESENCE

GREENERIES..!

COULD

THE WORLD

BE RESTORED .. ...

HE SPREAD THIS MUCH GREENERIES ON HIS OWN..?

WHEN... ....

THE SANOME BOY DID THIS ON HIS OWN?

DID THIS HAPPEN !

--COULD...

. .. . .IT'S TOO LATE.

HIM SOONER,

IF I MET. .

.....NO,

..WELL,

FOR NOW,

I DOUBT THAT THIS BODY..

WILL BE OKAY AS THINGS ARE RIGHT NOW.

I HAVE TO FINISH MY MISSION AND RETURN QUICKLY

I WOULD HAVE DEFINITELY TURNED...

INTO A...

BETTER PERSON..

AND HE'LL TREASURE HIS LIFE MORE.

HE'LL BE MORE CAREFUL.

THEN- I'M SURE..

I'LL BE CONTENT WITH.. JUST THAT.

I SHOULD AT LEAST MAKE HIM UNDERSTAND SERIOUSNESS OF LIFE.

I'LL RETURN TO YORUAKI BEFORE I DIE.

AT ANY RATE,

MY BODY HAS BEEN FATED TO D.E SINCE THE VERY START.

THAT'S A GOOD ENOUGH LIFE

FOR ME.

BEING ABLE TO PROTECT...

MY ONE AND ONLY,

FAVORITE,

DEAR CHILD..

THAT WILL DO

EVEN IF...

EVEN IF IT'S A HORRIBLE PATH,

IS ENOUGH

. THERE IS MEANING IN JUST.. THAT.

IT'S A PATH I CHOSE ON MY OWN.

....A GOOD DREAM

.. HE'S HAVING .

...NOBODY WANTS TO DIE...

NOR DOES ANYBODY...

WANT OTHERS TO DIE.

NOBODY.

IF THERE'S A WAY NOT TO DIE,

DON'T YOU THINK THAT THE REASON I'M THAT METHOD

IS BECAUSE I HAVE A GREAT WILL TO LIVE?

.....!

...HE WISHED...

HE HAD MET RAKAN A LITTLE SOONER.

BECAUSE THIS IS THE PATH HE HIMSELF CHOSE.....

...BUT HE IS CONTENT...

WITH THIS.

ANYTHING IN THE WORLD .....?

..WITHOUT SACRIFICING...

BE USED..

ALL PUT TOGETHER,

CAN'T THE POWER OF PLANTS, STONES, AND SUPERHUMANS,

THIS GUY...

IS FEELING SORRY FOR "YORUAKI".

.....

...HE'S NOT BLAMING HIM AT ALL.

.. ..

MIYA.

DEARLY, YOU KNOW.

from what I know...

TO YORUAKI .....

YORUAKI-SAMA..

ALSO LOVES RITSUKA-SAMA...

.....

...I'M DEFINITELY HANDING OVER THIS GUY..

RITSUKA-SAN IS THE ONLY ONE LEFT...

YORUAKI-SAN WAS A DEAR "CHILD" TO HIM.

IN THE KAGAN FAMILY NOW, SO...

MIYA!

Calm down

Is that guy stupid?!

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT "DOCTOR" DOING!!

LET'S TAKE HIM TO THE CAPITAL...!

YEAH.

HOW COULD HE LET A DRUG LIKE THIS BE DRUNK...!

AT LEAST HE WON'T USE THE "DRUG" HE HAS NOW!

WHEN HE SEES RITSUKA-SAMA, RIGHT!

HE'LL UNDERSTAND WHAT HAP-PENED...

IT CAN ONLY FLY ONE PERSON,

BUT IT CAN SEND RITSU-KA-SAMA TO YORUAKI-SAMA!

...OH YEAH!

I HAVE THE "CLOTH" THAT KINREI-SAMA GAVE ME.

The thing he mentioned earlier...

EH?

RUSTLE

DON'T CALL ME BOKU-CHAN!!

Oh.

BOKU-CHAN ...

IT CRUMBLED ....

WHOA, WHAT THE-

WHAT TIMING...!

EH?!

BREAKS

EH?!

WITH THIS...

HERE IT IS, LOOK!

rustle

.....!

REALLY ARE WATCHING!

.... HEY, I THINK...

KINRE! AND THE PRINCE....

YEAH.

LET'S USE *THAT* THEN.

SO PEOPLE IS TOO MANY

THE GUARDS ARE IN THE WAY.

WHAT SHALL WE DO?

..RITSUKA REALLY WAS USELESS

"KOKUYOU"!!!

...SORRY,

IT LOOKS LIKE I...

RAKAN.

...CHIGUSA?

THUD

CAN'T HOLD ON EITHER--

CHIGU...

unsteady

WHAT'S THE MATTER?!

!

CHIGUSA?!

HISS

AREN'T HEALING?!

HIS WOUNDS

SHH

SHHH

...!!

CHIGUSA...?!

FAVORABLE②

or Mischievous①

VARIOUS REASONS

OH YEAH, WE'RE SUPPOSED TO ADD "SAN" TO THOSE OLDER THAN US, HUH?

SHOULD WE CALL HIM "SENROH-SAN"?

"CHIGUSA-SAN"?

"BECAUSE HE'S THE MOTHER-IN-LAW."

"BECAUSE HE'S LIKE A MOTHER."

"BECAUSE HE'S LIKE AN OLDER SISTER."

DON'T YOU GUYS CALL NARUSHIGE WITH A "SAN"...?

AH, WELL, THAT'S..

IT JUST SOMEHOW ENDED UP THAT WAY..

ISN'T IT FINE WITHOUT IT?

Don't worry about it.

BESIDES, CHIGUSA DID SAY BEFORE THAT IT'S OKAY TO ADDRESS HIM WITHOUT AN HONORIFIC.

DON'T WORRY, THAT'S BECAUSE THERE PROBABLY *IS* A STRANGE MEANING TO IT.

Yep.

IT SOUNDS LIKE THERE'S A STRANGE MEANING TO IT....

WHY IS IT THAT WHEN YOU'RE THE ONE SAYING IT,

I LIKE IT BETTER WHEN I'M ADDRESSED WITHOUT AN HONORIFIC...

RIGHT?

YEAH.

TAKING THIS OPPORTUNITY

BUT NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT,
SINCE HE IS THE SANOME PRINCE.
WE SHOULDN'T ADDRESS RAKAN WITHOUT HONORIFICS, RIGHT?
OTHERWISE HE MIGHT NOT SOUND LIKE A REMARKABLE PERSON.
That's true.
AH, THAT'S NICE, "RAKAN-SAMA" SOUNDS COOL.
THEN, SHALL WE CALL HIM "RAKAN-SAMA"?
AH, WAIT, STOP!
HUH?!
Why not?!
NO! NOT THAT!

SILVER DIAMOND

VOLUME 17

シルバーダイヤモンド

杉浦志保

SUMMON THE SPIRIT TO HELP OUT IN THE CRISIS!

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訳者の注釈

TRANSLATOR'S NOTES.

星示御言 <HOSHIMINOKOTO>

In this volume, the characters used to spell "Hoshiminokoto" are revealed:

星 (*ho*) star　示 (*shi*) express　御 (*mi*) honourable　言 (*koto*) word

NOTE: The "no" in Hoshiminokoto is a particle connecting "mi" and "koto".

Hence, the literal translation of this name is "the word expressed by the stars".

ON HONORIFICS:

さん <SAN>

-san is the most commonly used honorific, and is used to address the person with a sense of respect. In extra "Various Reasons", the Sanome Guards all unconsciously address Narushige with a *-san* because they somewhat see him as an older sister/mother, hence they address him more politely. XD

様 <SAMA>

-sama is a very respectful way of addressing someone who has a really high position / someone you really admire. But we all know that Chigusa only wants to call Rakan "Rakan-sama" because he likes Prince!RakanxServant!Chigusa roleplays. XD

兄様 <NIISAMA>

-oniisama is a very respectful and formal way of addressing one's older brother. It normally isn't used though (only used in upper class families, I think).

呼び捨て <YOBISUTE>

Calling someone without an honorific, also known as *yobisute* in Japanese, is quite informal. Only do this to someone you're close to otherwise it's just plain rude. XD Most Japanese would like to be addressed without any honorifics by their lover.

ABOUT THE SERPENTS

The big serpents in Silver Diamond actually talk effeminately in Japanese, which leads me to believe that they are most likely female.